AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) and (b) Financial assistance is being provided to the farmers under the various Special Thrust Programmes being implemented .in various States for increasing the production of crops like rice wheat, maize, gram arhar and oilseeds etc. The details are given below :—

	Programme		Nature of assistance provided to farmers
1.	Special Foodgrains Programme of Rice.	Production	Subsidy on distribution of seeds; fertilisers; plant protection chemicals and equipment; farm implements; field demonstrations, trainings; pump-sets and construction of field channels/improvement of drainage ; opening of new input sale centres and construction/renovation of input godowns.
2.	Special Foodgrains Programme of Wheat.	Production	Financial assistance for seed distribution; use of zinc sulphate; seed treatment and weed control.
3.	Special Foodgrains Programme of Maize.	Production	Financial assistance for seed distribution and weed control.
5.	Special Foodgrains Programme of Gram & Arhar.	Production	Financial assistance for plant protection chemicals and distribution of seed mini-kits at concessional rates.
5.	Oilseeds Production Thrust Programme.		Financial assistance on plant protection chemicals and equipments; field demonstration; improved farm implements and supply of gypsum/pyrites.

The above mentioned programmes will supplement the efforts of the State Governments to achieve the targets of production of food grains and oil seeds.

As regards selection of farmers' the State Governments have been advised to give preference to small and marginal farmers/scheduled castes and scheduled tribe far-mees.

Recommendations of Sugar Wage Board

390. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :

SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the recommendations made by the Sugar Wage Board in respect of minimum wage, D.A. rate guaranteed minimum benefit, retention allowance fringe, benefits etc. ;

(b) the response to each of these recommendations from various State Governments and Central Ministries ; and

(c) the steps being taken to grant interim relief till Government come to a decision on the above recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHAKR1SHAN MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) Recommendations of the Sugar Wage Board and the response thereon received from State Governments & Central Ministries are under active consideration.

(c) There is no proposal to grant any further interim relief.